

CENTER SCENE



The Bureau of Land Management Service Center Newsletter

April 1990

INTERPRETIVE CENTER SUPPORT

The Bureau of Land Management has recently signed a contract with an engineering firm in Seattle, Washington, to provide Architect/Engineer (A/E) design services for the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. The Service Center Division of Technical Services under its Chief, Chuck Tulloss, is providing civil (SC-672), electrical (SC-673), and mechanical (SC-673) engineering support for this project. The Oregon State Office is managing the contract and providing architectural and interpretive support. This Interpretive Center is one of relatively few for which both the interpretive design and the engineering design will be accomplished under the same A/E contract. The statement of work was completed last fall and with the selection of the A/E contractor and the signing of the contract, Service Center personnel will focus their attention on monitoring and reviewing the work of the contractor.



The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center will be located at Flagstaff Hill on Oregon State Highway 86. The ruts created by wagon trains carrying an estimated 300,000 pioneers traveling overland to settle in Oregon between 1812 and 1890 are still visible at

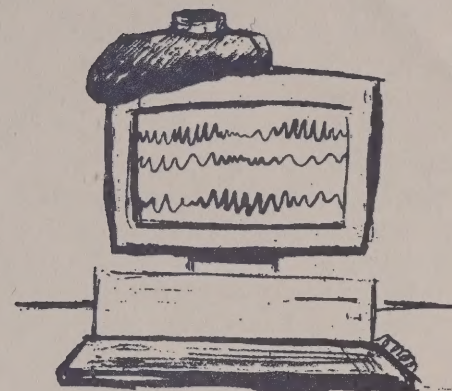
Flagstaff Hill. Flagstaff Hill is 4 miles east of Interstate 84 and Baker City, Oregon. The center will be on 500 acres of public land along the Oregon Trail and approximately 100,000 visitors are anticipated annually.

The main building of the center will have approximately 21,000 square feet which will provide space for interpretive exhibits and other required functions necessary to support the center. In addition, a maintenance/storage building of approximately 6,100 square feet will also be on the site. The design will include two living history interpretive sites, an interpretive trail system, an outdoor amphitheater, a picnic area, and roads.

The goal of the interpretive program will be to instill in visitors an understanding and appreciation of their cultural heritage, specifically the Oregon Trail experience as it encompasses the life and times of people who settled the American West and the mining history of northeastern Oregon. The design philosophy for interpretive programs will include developing public awareness and appreciation leading to the preservation and protection of the Oregon Trail as a national cultural resource on public and private lands.

The current schedule calls for the design phase to be completed in December of this year. The construction phase is scheduled for completion in February 1992, followed by the grand opening 3 months later in May. So for those of you who like to do long-range vacation planning, you may want to head in the direction of Baker City, Oregon in 1992 for this event!

COMPUTER VIRUS



Recently, there was an outbreak of a computer virus known as "Jerusalem Strain B" at the Service Center. The virus spreads rapidly, and may have infected several State, District, and Resource Area Offices as well.

This particular virus attaches itself to the .COM and .EXE program files. Symptoms include a general slowdown of the system, disappearance of programs on Friday the 13th, growth of .EXE files until they are too large to execute, and decrease in available system memory.

The Service Center is purchasing a software package called Viruscan Combined Package from McAfee Associates in Santa Clara, California to detect, protect, and eradicate this and all known viruses. The software will be available for field offices as well.

The Jerusalem B virus, as well as most other viruses, is easily transmitted from computer to computer. This usually happens by downloading infected programs over phone lines or by inserting a floppy disk containing an infected program into a computer. If a computer is suspected of having the virus, it should not be used until the virus can be removed.

In the future, viruses can be avoided and a secure environment for data can be provided by using common sense, purchasing only reputable software, avoiding public domain software, and ensuring adequate backups are maintained.

I would like to say a special thank you to everyone who donated leave time for me. You were really life savers as I ran out of my own leave time waiting for word on my medical retirement application. I am thankful to say that it was approved. I will never forget your kindness.

—Jacqueline Miles

EARTH DAY 1990

KAISER COUNCIL APPOINTEE

Former SC employee Sheri Bell, now Public Affairs Specialist in the Colorado State Office, has been appointed to the regional Kaiser Permanente Health Advisory Council. The Council is made up of Kaiser managers and employees, and includes at least 18 subscribers.

The purpose of the council is to give enrollees in the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan an opportunity to participate in policy and operation of the program, promote effective use of Kaiser's health care services, and suggest ways that the program can better serve its members.

Sheri has been appointed to the Council for a 3-year term, and she is on their sales and marketing committee. She is pleased and excited to have the opportunity for this interaction with Kaiser and she would appreciate hearing about experiences employees have had with their services. Call Sheri at 236-1700, or drop her a note at CO-912.

At 9 a.m. on April 19th, there will be a celebration at the Federal Center commemorating the 20th anniversary of Earth Day. The celebration will include a 45-minute ceremony attended by visiting dignitaries. The ceremony will be held near North Avenue between 5th and 6th Streets (north of Building 67 near the pond). Employees are encouraged to walk there. There will be parking available for special persons at the north end of Building 67. All employees are invited and encouraged to attend — with your supervisor's permission of course. Look for more information on this event by mid-April!

In addition to Earth Day, there are other ways to celebrate the environment. A Federal committee and subcommittees have been convened to look at ways we can improve the trails, aesthetics, and wildlife habitat here on the Federal Center. Additionally, they are looking at projects focusing on recycling and the use of biodegradable supplies. Please contact Mary Gaylord at 236-6407 if you are interested in working on any of these kinds of projects — or if you have ideas that might be adopted to enhance the quality of our Federal Center environment.

M&L SELECTION

Congratulations to David Palmer, who has been selected as the Service Center's candidate for the next Management and Leadership Workshop. David is a systems accountant in the Division of Finance. He has worked his way up in the Division since he started there in December 1976.

During this intensive 10-day training experience, David will have the opportunity to participate in interviews, simulations, seminars, and group activities that are designed to refine and enhance his leadership skills. He will also be responsible for completing a project after the Workshop.

The next M&L Workshop will be held from April 23 to May 3, 1990. The Workshop was successfully piloted in November 1985 with 30 participants, and has been offered six times since. It is now part of the overall effort to improve human resource management in the Bureau.

ILLICIT CROP DETECTION

Orbiting at an altitude of 500 miles above the earth's surface, a series of earth observation satellites equipped with sophisticated scanning devices and high powered optical telescopes position their sensors to swiftly and silently monitor and record everything that is happening in a 100-mile swath on the ground below. At the same time, a U-2 aircraft, outfitted with similar sensors and a suite of state-of-the-art cameras, obtains high resolution digital imagery and aerial photography of the same area imaged by the satellites. Who receives this information and the benefits from such sophisticated technology? The CIA? The military? NSA? Think again — it's BLM.

Although this technology is used for many purposes and in many ways, it is currently receiving some attention for its use in the detection of illicit crops. The Department of the Interior is aggressively

supporting the President's war on drugs. All Interior bureaus are helping to stop narcotics at the border, eliminate marijuana growth and trafficking on public lands, and educate children about the harmful effects of drug abuse. BLM is supporting the fight by using remote sensing technology to detect illegal growth on public lands. The Remote Sensing Staff at the Service Center is working with the Washington Office and field offices on this and other resource related programs.

The cultivation of illegal crops is rapidly becoming a "growing" problem on public lands. As of last year, in California alone, 34 raids by various law enforcement officials netted 22,800 marijuana plants with an estimated street value of more than \$22 million. In 1988, Interior bureaus destroyed or seized more than \$550 million in drugs and made

around 4,000 arrests for violations.

Public lands seem ideally suited to cultivation because they are usually remote, isolated, and difficult to patrol. According to Remote Sensing Section Chief Jim Turner, "Law enforcement specialists just can't cover every section of public lands on the ground — satellite imagery and/or aerial photography offers an attractive alternative surveillance technique which can make ground investigation many times more productive. If unusual or unnatural areas of vegetation are identified through remote sensing techniques, ground investigations can be focused and scarce law enforcement resources can be maximized." The analysis of satellite imagery data, in conjunction with aerial photography, may make this surveillance easier and may make it more difficult for the "bad guys" to cultivate large scale plots.